

Bashir ends visit to Cairo

Sudan says Israel, Cuba give military assistance to rebels

CAIRO (AP) — Sudan's military ruler said Tuesday that Israel and Cuba are giving military aid to southern Sudanese rebels and that Israeli experts have been battlefield casualties.

Israeli and rebel spokesmen disclaimed knowledge of any Israeli presence with the rebels. Lt.-Gen. Omar Hassan Al Bashir, who chairs the military junta ruling Sudan since a coup last June 30, spoke at a news conference at the end of an official visit, his third as head of state.

"We have definite proof of the presence of Israeli experts at rebel centres for training and operational planning and of military support reaching the (rebel) movement from Israel," he said.

He said his government has "information that there have been human losses among Israelis in some battle areas."

The Sudanese leader gave no details. But his main field commander in the south was quoted Tuesday as saying that three Israeli experts were reported wounded in fighting in the Equatoria region.

Iran accused of burying riot victims

BAGHDAD (R) — Iran's main opposition group said Wednesday Iranian authorities had secretly buried a number of people killed in rioting in Tehran.

The Iraq-based Mujahedeen Khalq quoted witnesses in Tehran as saying at least 10 people killed in riots in the Iranian capital last Friday were buried in unmarked graves at the Behesht-e Zahra Cemetery.

The Mujahedeen, in a telex to Reuters, said security forces in Tehran were still on alert for any new outbreak of violence.

Iranian newspapers Sunday said "opportunist" had joined a football riot Friday outside Tehran's Shiroudi Stadium.

Police said the disturbance was sparked by the last-minute cancellation of a game because of

Equatoria is one of three southern regions wracked by civil war since renegade army Col. John Garang's Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) launched operations against the Muslim-dominated government in 1983. The rebellion was to press demands for autonomy and economic reforms in the south, inhabited mostly by Christians or animists of African descent.

Maj.-Gen. Nasserddin Sujman, the government's military commander in Equatoria, told the Sudanese newspaper Al Injaz Al Watany that his command had received a report saying three Israeli experts were wounded in a mine explosion while inspecting a rebel camp in Equatoria.

In Israel, Defence Ministry spokesman Dan Weinreich said: "I don't know about such an accident, and I don't know about Israelis in southern Sudan."

In Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, a spokesman for the SPLA, Lam

Akol, said: "There has not been a single Israeli that has gone to the south or near the border" between Ethiopia and Sudan.

Akol said the rebel command

has not contemplated or anticipated any form of assistance from Israel" and charged that Sudanese government claims of involvement by the Jewish state were intended to "isolate us from the Arab World."

In his news conference, Bashir said the SPLA sent to Cuba "very large numbers of young southerners" for ideological indoctrination and military training.

"They are there now, and our information is that there is a school in Cuba called the Sudan school," he added.

Brig. Dominique Cassiano, a member of Bashir's junta, told the newspaper Al Injaz Al Watany the rebels have 12,000 men in Cuba.

Bashir told reporters that he had President Hosni Mubarak discussed how to end the southern Sudan rebellion peacefully.

They dealt with a potential Egyptian role in peacekeeping, both as honest broker as current chairman of the Organisation of Afri-

can Unity (OAU), he said.

The rebels and the government held peace talks in Addis Ababa last August and in Nairobi, Kenya, in December. Both rounds were inconclusive.

The Sudanese strongman asked Mubarak after the December meeting to try to organise a third round in Cairo. President Mobutu Sese Seko of Zaire also has been mediating.

"Efforts are under way now by our brothers in Egypt and Zaire... and we hope that the results of these efforts will appear in the next few days," Bashir said.

But he said a 1976 joint defence agreement between Egypt and Sudan "remains in force and will not be abrogated."

Peace terms voiced by the SPLA in negotiations with the government include a demand for cancellation of the pact.

Civilian Prime Minister Sadek Al Mahdi announced shortly before Bashir deposed him that it had been abrogated.

The assertion by Bashir that the agreement remains valid appeared to indicate he has revived it.

higher quality and in a more concerned manner," Khamenei told a group of Muslim clerics in a speech, broadcast on Tehran Radio.

"The clergy's participation is indispensable for continuation of the revolution and the independence of the Islamic Republic," he said.

Rumours in Tehran said 800 people were arrested and two police cars set on fire. The reports could not be independently confirmed.

Meanwhile Iran's spiritual leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei Wednesday urged Muslim clerics to increase their already prominent role in running the country's affairs.

"Clergymen must be present on military, political and publicity scenes in greater numbers, with

parliamentary seats.

Others are assigned as communists to consolidate Islam's hold in the armed forces, factories, schools and government offices.

Some 2,500 clerics and theological students were killed in the Gulf war with Iraq, according to official figures.

In a separate development, a hardline Iranian newspaper urged the government Wednesday to take further punitive measures in response to what it described as hostile British acts against Islam and Iranian citizens.

Jomhuri Islami hailed a government decision Tuesday to revoke the accreditation of an Iranian journalist who worked part time for the Persian service of the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC).

Iranian clerics and their lay supporters were brought to power by the late Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's 1979 Islamic revolution and are regarded by many as Iran's new ruling elite.

From Khamenei, who holds supreme power under Iran's constitution, mullahs currently occupy the presidency, four of the country's 22 ministerial positions, all top judicial posts and more than a quarter of

MPs.

Iranian students, police clash

Afghan rebels shoot down military plane killing 20

PESHAWAR, Pakistan (R) — Afghan guerrillas said Wednesday they shot down a military transport plane two days earlier near the besieged garrison town of Khost in eastern Afghanistan, killing at least 20 people.

All the dead were soldiers, a spokesman for guerrilla Commander Jalaluddin Haqqani said in the north-western Pakistani town of Peshawar, where guerrilla groups fighting the Kabul government are based.

No independent confirmation of the report was available.

The plane was bringing ammunition and soldiers from the capital Kabul and was brought down Monday by a U.S.-supplied Stinger missile in the Zamkheil area about 10 kilometres west of Khost, a rebel news service said.

The Afghan Islamic Press, quoting information received from the area, said explosions continued for a long time after the crash.

Two days ago, the guerrillas said they had captured an important government hilltop position dominating Khost, which they have kept cut off by road from the rest of Afghanistan.

Meanwhile another Afghan rebel leader, Sibghatullah Mojahiddi, denied Tuesday that the Mujahedeen were fomenting violence in the Soviet Union's south-

ern republics.

"The Russians are blaming us for the uprising in their Muslim areas, but the movement of Azeris and Tajiks is part of the worldwide struggle against Communism," he said.

Mojahiddi, president of the rebel government in exile in Pakistan, said in an interview he knew of no weapons supplied by the Mujahedeen crossing the Oxus River into Soviet Tajikistan.

"The Afghans by themselves are in a miserable condition," he said. "They have not yet liberated their country. How can they be helping others."

Reports from Kabul said Soviet Ambassador Nikolai Pastukhov told reporters Sunday that Washington and Pakistan were using Afghan guerrillas to foment the trouble.

Pakistan and the United States are the main supporters of Afghan rebels.

Afghans do not deny that they have poured thousands of copies of the Koran into the southern Soviet republics during more than 10 years of war in Afghanistan. But they dispute how many are going across now.

"There is no reason for that," said another Afghan leader, Syed Ahmed Gailani. "When the Soviets were in Afghanistan that would have been a good reason to

irritate them but not now."

Gailani, who goes to Tehran

Wednesday to try to persuade Shi'ite Muslim Afghans to join elections proposed by the Peshawar-based exile government, said the Soviet Union could only blame itself if arms or other material were still being smuggled.

"They are pouring thousands and thousands of tonnes of war material into Afghanistan. If some of it slips back into the do," he said in an interview in Islamabad.

Radical guerrilla leader Gulbuddin Hekmatyar is widely held responsible for much of the smuggling across Afghanistan's northern border but is reluctant to talk about it.

In Tehran, an Iranian newspaper Tuesday called for a U.N.-supervised plebiscite to determine the form of government in neighbouring Afghanistan.

The pro-government Tehran

Times said a new Afghan peace plan proposed by Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze could be improved to play a key role in resolving the Afghan problem.

The paper said a ceasefire in

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Afghanistan should be followed by a peace conference bringing together Afghanistan's neighbour.

Yilmaz, 43, is widely seen as a

key article in the Shevardnadze proposal.

The 10-point plan, printed in

the Soviet government newspaper Izvestia last Wednesday, calls

for a conference of Iran, Pakistan, the Soviet Union and the United States after a ceasefire in Afghanistan.

The Iranian Times Monday quoted President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani as saying Iran wanted nothing but the independence and freedom demanded by the Afghan Muslims.

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Government should create facilities for low-income tourists

By Caroline Faraj
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Minister of Tourism Abdul Karim Al Kabarid Wednesday called for a concerted government effort to create tourist facilities for Jordanian vacationers with limited incomes in a bid to boost domestic tourism.

He said setting up national camping sites in tourist regions was one of the projects that could be successful, but, he said, these projects require sufficient funds.

Speaking at a meeting with local journalists, who toured archaeological and tourist sites in the Kingdom over the past three days, the minister said that Jordanian students visiting various areas had vandalised tourist centres. "It is now necessary to spread awareness among the children about their country's historical treasures in cooperation with the Ministry of Education and other authorities," Kabarid said.

The journalists tour, organised by the Ministry of Tourism, took them to the desert castles, Azraq oasis, the Shomari wildlife reserve and the archaeological sites in Jerash, Madaba, Maan, Karak and the ancient Nabatean city of Petra in southern Jordan.

The journalists were briefed on the ministry's programmes to boost the tourism industry.

"Marketing Jordan domestically and abroad required concerted efforts on the part of the public and private sector and calls for the allocation of huge funds," the minister said. "For this reason, a committee grouping the Ministry of Tourism and the tourist offices was set up recently to raise \$800,000 as an initial fund to finance such operations," he said.

In addition, he said, the Ministry of Tourism has received a request from 13 tourist companies to set up a tourist model village in Aqaba which can serve local, Arab and foreign visitors.

He said that problems related to the ministry was also working on resolving problems related to the supply of water, electricity and other services to all tourist sites like the Dead Sea. Kabarid announced that in April Jordan would be visited by the first group of Iraqi tourists and said he hoped that more groups would be visiting Jordan on a regular basis.

**Jordan
Times**
Tel: 667171

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

* An exhibition of photos of plays directed by Chereau, Meneghini, Mouschkin, Flanigan and others, at the French Cultural Centre.

* An exhibition of paintings by Alia Ammoura, Nabila Hilmi and Nawal Abdallah at Abdol Hamed Shoman Foundation (10 a.m. - 8 p.m.).

* A photography exhibition by Samer Al Tal at the Yarmouk University.

* An Iraqi book exhibition at the Mu'ta University.

* An exhibition entitled "Twenty years of French contribution to studying Syrian archaeology" at the Institute of Anthropology and Archaeology at Yarmouk University.

* An exhibition entitled "Models of the Jordanian plastic art" at the Soviet Cultural Centre.

FILMS

* A feature film entitled "Sophie's Choice" at the American Centre — 7:30 p.m.

* A Soviet film entitled "The Revolution Knights" at the Soviet Cultural Centre — 5:30 p.m.

Jordan factories need strong health safety programme

By Nasir Sadi
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Risk control at Jordanian factories is very low in comparison with internationally accepted standards, according to Dr. Peter Compes, a West German specialist in occupational safety currently visiting the Kingdom.

Compes has only been here for five days and only visited several factories, but apparently his specialisation in Third World industrial sectors allows him to make quick evaluation of the problem of industrial safety.

"The situation in Jordan compares with most countries in the region," he told the Jordan Times. "While the factories have high productivity and efficiency the management overlooks safety problems," he said.

While inspecting factories, he found out that the main problem was behavioural, "especially in man's dealing with machines."

Neither the management nor the workers have risk awareness because of lack of industrial, educational or vocational training, Compes asserted.

There are conflicting views between management and workers concerning industrial accidents. "I observed that the management would blame the employees for accidents accusing them of not doing as they

are told," he said. "On the other hand, employees insist that working conditions are not safe," he added.

According to a factory employee, who did not wish his name to be published, "we are expected to produce quality and quantity products in the shortest time possible while the management ignores the risk of accidents."

Compes agrees. He says that management's outlook should change and that better working conditions be introduced, giving employees more rights, responsibility and reliability and defining their exact duties.

Another factory worker said he felt that the management does not seem to care about employees. "They are only concerned about making profit and they cannot seem to find a medium where they can make profit while at the same time taking the well-being of employees into consideration," said the worker, also speaking on condition of anonymity.

According to Compes, a strong industrial safety programme should be imposed in Jordan by the concerned authorities. "I found that such a programme is missing in the factories," he said. The Social Security Corporation should also provide factories with technical officers who would supervise and seek to minimise the risks, he suggested.

According to a factory manager, "the government is not intervening sufficiently in providing a legal system or any sort of constructive factory inspection." He said he would "like to see more officials around."

But Compes insisted that the management should employ a skilled and qualified safety engineer. "In West Germany it is by law that every company and factory have such a qualified person," he said.

"A safety engineer can advise the management and consult with employees. The engineer would bear responsibility and liability towards accidents and would provide the factory with accident statistics in terms of frequency and economic consequences. "This is crucial and it is missing in the factories I inspected," Compes said.

The management is also unaware of the costs incurred due to accidents, he said. In addition to talking about the ethical and legal background of safety measures, the management should also concentrate on finding out their financial losses due to accidents, he added.

Safety activities should have the same importance as production activity. "It is better to prevent accidents than to pay for its consequences," Compes said.

U.N. envoy probes means of assisting Palestinians

AMMAN (J.T.) — United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar is keenly concerned over the economic development process in the occupied Arab territories in light of the deteriorating situation there over the past two years, according to Cuellar's special envoy to Jordan Francis Blanchard.

Blanchard, who is in Jordan to discuss ways of providing economic and humanitarian assistance to the Palestinian people under occupation, said that his mission here requires coordination with all organisations that can help in this matter.

Blanchard in a meeting with Dr. Ahmad Qatani, director of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Department of Palestinian Affairs, reviewed the situation in the Israeli occupied lands and Jordan's assistance to the refugees.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said that Qatani presented a detailed outline to the U.N. envoy on the economic situation in the Arab territories pointing out Israel's obstruction of humanitarian and economic projects designed to improve the living conditions of Palestinians living under its rule.

Symposium delves into migration impacts

IRBID (Petra) — A four-day symposium on migration and its social and economic impacts was opened at Yarmouk University here Wednesday with the participation of delegates from 10 countries in the region.

The Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology at Yarmouk University organised the symposium in cooperation with the Cairo-based regional population office, to shed light on population movements in the Middle East and settlement issues in general, according to Dr. Fadil Al Shehik Salem, Yarmouk University acting president.

Dr. Huda Zreiq from the Cairo regional population office underlined the importance of the symposium in view of the numerous migration processes which took place in the Middle East region over the ages. She said attention would be focused on economic and social problems.

Millionth passenger ferried on Aqaba-Nweibeh route

Saudi Arabia for the annual pilgrimage there. Pilgrims, he said, can make the trip along the route to Aqaba and their board buses for Mecca and Medina.

The company, which is owned by Egypt, Jordan and Iraq, has been employing two ferry boats, each with a capacity of 1,450 passengers and 200 small cars, Qatse' added. He said the three countries were doing all they could to provide better services.

Between 1987 and 1989, he said, the ferry boats carried 27,825 lorries and cold storage trucks, 98,106 buses and 7,407 other vehicles.

Referring to the possibility of North Yemen joining the company, he said that this would be a welcome step, but a political decision on the issue was needed by the heads of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC), grouping Jordan, Iraq, Egypt and North Yemen.

But, he said, between 1989 and 1990, the ministry would try to

Senate endorses budget

(Continued from page 1)

never had any employment in their life.

Senator Laila Sharaf urged the government to give more care to women's development and to involve women in the national development effort.

Before voting on the budget, the Senate approved a proposal by Amin Shukri to set up a small

sub-committee from the Senate's Foreign Affairs Committee to prepare a memorandum which should be submitted to the heads of the four-member Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries who are meeting in Amman Saturday.

The memorandum would deal with the threat to the Arab Nation posed by the influx of Jewish immigrants into Palestine.

Palestinians in the occupied territories," the foreign ministers said in a statement after a one-day meeting.

"The Twelve urged the Israeli government not to jeopardise the prospects of bringing peace to the region by either allowing or encouraging Jewish immigrants to settle in the occupied territories," the statement said.

The community reiterated that it considered Jewish settlements in the occupied territories, including Arab Jerusalem, illegal and said it was seriously concerned about the settlement there of Jews permitted to emigrate under the Soviet liberalisation.

Husseini: Settlers can stay

(Continued from page 1)

Husseini's 20-minute speech was one of a series he has given lately to Jewish groups as part of a new strategy to win more grassroots sympathy among Israelis for the Palestinian cause.

Foreign ministers of the European Community (EC) Tuesday urged Israel not to settle Soviet Jews in the occupied West Bank, saying it would endanger the Middle East peace process.

"The statement by Soviet Jews of this right (to emigrate) must not, however, be at the expense of the rights of the

Israeli security measures, the breakdown in law enforcement against conventional crime, and factional differences among Palestinians," the report said.

In Israel itself, the report said, Arab citizens have not shared in the rights and duties of Jewish citizens.

The State Department report

Petra Bank protest snowballs; prime minister said to step in

By Sana Atiyeh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A stage-in protest by Petra Bank employees appeared to have gathered momentum Wednesday as more employees participated in it and for the first time publicly demanded the resignation of the bank's management committee.

not ours," Anani said.

The Jordan Banking and Insurance Employees Association (JBIEA), which is backing the employees' demands, said that Prime Minister Mudar Badran had agreed to meet with the association to discuss the issue.

Anani said the proposed meeting was a "good idea, but I hope they deliver reasonable demands if they want them fulfilled, and not the demands they are making now."

He added that he doubted the government would ask the management to resign before auditors prepare a final report on the financial status of the bank as of Aug. 3, 1989; that is, before the management takeover. He did not say when the final report would be complete.

Anani expressed concern over the escalation of the protest. He said it would only widen the gap between the management and employees, and between the government and employees. "The bridge will become more difficult to build between the government and the association representing the employees," he said.

An active member of the JBIEA, Yusef Hurani, said the association had not yet adopted the employees' demand for the management resignation, "but if that is what the employees want, we will do it."

Hurani told the Jordan Times that leaders from 17 different trade unions met Tuesday night and decided to send messages to the speakers

of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament and the minister of labour to intervene to solve the employees' problems and ensure the continuity of the bank.

He also said that the association presidents had decided to postpone a trip to Baghdad to attend a festival of trade unions in Iraq because of the Petra Bank affair.

Political activists and trade unionists addressed the protesters Wednesday and expressed solidarity with them and supported their demands in their entirety.

Deputy Ahmad Oweidi Al Abbadi also attended the protest in support of the employees and called on the management to "come down here to the street if you really care about the institution."

Many employees from branches outside Amman, particularly those in Irbid, Karak and Aqaba, joined their colleagues in the sit-in. They told the Jordan Times that they had stayed away from work Tuesday, but came to Amman Wednesday to be with their colleagues in the second day of protest.

Some of the protesters told the Jordan Times that the management had assigned substitutes to branch managers to open the bank, but the bank failed to operate.

"This was an unprofessional move by the management because first of all the substitutes could not operate, and secondly substitutes are supposed to officially receive the keys and credentials from the actual

branch manager so that responsibility is pinpointed in case something goes wrong," one branch manager told the Jordan Times.

Printers join protest

Employees from the Petra Bank printing press also joined the sit-in, demanding better conditions. One of them told the Jordan Times that they do not enjoy similar benefits as the bank's employees such as two-month bonus salaries, health insurance and provident fund. He claimed they were under "constant threat" from the management that the press would be closed down.

In another development, the association representing employees of publishing houses and printing presses announced at the sit-in that it would ask its members not to work next Saturday in solidarity with the Petra Bank employees. Many of those working at the Petra Bank printing press also work for newspaper printing houses in the evenings and could paralyse newspapers if the call was implemented.

There were more than 850 people after 2 p.m. (after working hours) gathered on two sides of the road in front of Petra Bank. Approximately 200 of whom were employees of other banks, insurance companies and trade unions, expressing their solidarity with the Petra Bank employees' protest. Present at the sit-in were also Petra Bank clients expressing support for the employees.

in some cases reaches JD 40 a month, as well as free health insurance and medical services.

The NAF, which receives allocations from the general budget and through donations from individuals and various organisations, operates through its 24 offices around the country.

The Lower House of Parliament recently approved a proposal to double the fund's 1990 fiscal budget to boost its programmes.

Weekly reborn after 40 years

AMMAN (J.T.) — The latest arrival at Jordan's news stands is a weekly paper called *Akher Khabar*, the last news.

The Cyprus-based newspaper is published by cartoonist Jalal Al Rifai, an unnamed financier and journalist Basem Sakejha, Sakejha told the Jordan Times. The paper is printed at Zarqa Free Zone. The first issue carries number five, because Sakejha chose to renew a magazine his father Ibrahim Sakejha published in 1950. The 1950 magazine was suspended by the government only after four issues because Sakejha Sr. at the time had published an item that incurred the wrath of some people who later beat him up, according to Sakejha Jr. The father then left for Jerusalem.

The newspaper, which will appear every Monday, also carried an interview with Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) leader Nafez Hawatmeh. Hawatmeh told *Akher Khabar* he would be visiting Amman and Salt, his birth place, soon.

Confiscated 'Satanic Verses' destroyed

By Samir Hiyari

Special to the Jordan Times

say blasphemies Islam, drew Iranian death threats. He went into hiding last February after Iran's late leader Ayatollah Khomeini called on Muslims to kill him.

Publication of the *Satanic Verses* in Britain and elsewhere sparked Muslim anger worldwide, and Rushdie, who has lived in Britain since he was 13, said he did not think he would be more secure by moving to another country. Since going into hiding, Rushdie has written book reviews for British and American newspapers.

In a recent interview

Features



Television producer Alouzia Zaki looks forward to many more years of work.

The woman behind the screen

By Kaffa Saber

CAIRO — Alouzia Zaki has built a reputation in Egypt's television world as a producer-director with a message. Whatever the subject of her films or documentaries, the viewer will find that there is a point to it all — something to remember.

The rapid development of Egypt's television — with three channels broadcasting to over 10 million TV sets — has produced more jobs for men than women, especially at management level, yet Zaki is one of seven women producers — she recently retired but has kept on a full schedule of activities at the TV studios. In her 60s, she can look back on a long career which has won her national and international recognition.

Stolid and pragmatic, she welcomes this journalist into her

office in the TV building near the Nile during a rare moment of peace and quiet. Most of her time spent in the studios and trailers where the video equipment is set up. Like many women of her generation who have beaten the odds to enter a career, she found that to be accepted you had to be better, which meant putting the job first and foremost. Filled with the confidence that experience

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Newly found statue proves little people could reach the heights

By Miami Mann

The Associated Press

GIZA PLATEAU, Egypt — Per-N-Ankh lived the good life of an Egyptian bureaucrat about 4,500 years ago, and when he died, his pharaoh honoured him with a burial plot near the Giza pyramids.

His statue portrays Per-N-Ankh as a portly man with penetrating eyes, in the prime of life.

Per-N-Ankh was also a dwarf.

Egyptian archaeologists discovered his tomb in October, his bones and statue in January. Their study has only just begun.

But they are certain eventually to place Per-N-Ankh on a select list of antiquity's most famous dwarfs and give new insights into an intriguing field already under study: The role of little people in ancient Egypt's life and religion.

Egyptologist Kenneth Weeks of

American University in Cairo and the University of California, Berkeley, said he's been fascinated by the subject for more than 25 years.

"We have portrayals of dwarfs earlier than there were pharaohs," Weeks said. But he said the new find is rare because "the oldest statue we have of a dwarf has the legs intentionally cut off, and other statues disguised dwarfs."

"Here we see a pudgy man with fat legs that emphasise he's a dwarf. He's a man with power, who's saying to the world, 'it's no problem I'm a dwarf.' He's middle-aged, leading a good life and proud to say so."

The well-preserved statue, carved from black basalt, is 20 inches tall, just over nine inches wide and almost 11 inches deep (50 cm by 23 cm by 27 cm). It depicts a muscular official dressed

in a white kilt, his stubby legs sed in a white kilt, his stubby legs

from the knee to the toes. It's unclear yet what Per-N-Ankh's religious or bureaucratic duties were. His tomb, and the statue itself, show he was an important man, but details of his official duties are lacking.

Inscriptions in some tombs of dwarfs identify them as officials in charge of "the community of little people," but Per-N-Ankh's list no such ties with other dwarfs.

"We don't have proof that ancient Egyptians thought dwarfs were special but generations of artists of the old kingdom painted them performing many jobs," said Professor Ola Al Aguzi of Cairo University.

The old kingdom, Per-N-Ankh's time, lasted almost 450 years and ended in 2134 B.C.

Dr. Al Aguzi, who wrote her master's thesis on ancient Egyp-

tian dwarfs, said they took on interesting roles in religion and magic in later periods.

Dwarfs, often associated with the sun god, participated in ritual dances outside the tomb on burial day. Dwarfs seen in dreams meant the dreamer would foretell half his life.

This magical aspect of dwarfs ... must have had its origins earlier, especially in the old kingdom, when I suspect people believed having a dwarf would bring them luck," said Al Aguzi.

Also, dwarfs were associated with resurrection, maybe because the ancients thought a dwarf resembled an embryo, the beginning of a new life."

The find at Per-N-Ankh's tomb brings to 121 the number of dwarf statues surviving from the first 2,000 years of Egyptian history, ending with the new kingdom in 1,070 B.C.

An alabaster dwarf sits at the prow of a small boat found with the mummy of new kingdom Pharaoh Tutankhamun in his treasure-packed tomb in the Valley of the Kings. The world's oldest surviving mechanical toy is a row of dancing dwarfs dating from the 400-year-long middle kingdom, which ended in 1640 B.C.

Dwarf statues enjoyed a boom in popularity starting in the mid-fourth century B.C., when the Greeks, and later the Romans, ruled Egypt. Tens of thousands of statues remain.

More than 50 tombs in the cemeteries of Giza and nearby Sakka had dwarfs painted on their walls. Early paintings portray little people working among other servants, holding leashes of dogs or donkeys, carrying furniture or toilet articles or making jewellery. Female dwarfs are pictured mimicking dances per-

formed by normal-sized women.

One dwarf was buried as he requested, next to the master he served in life.

But not all dwarfs were born to serve.

One named Seneb, whose large tomb abuts Per-N-Ankh's, held high office with social, religious and honorary titles, and married a normal-sized princess.

His limestone statue, a tourist favourite in Cairo's Egyptian museum, clearly identifies him as an official but has him sitting cross-legged to obscure his height.

Per-N-Ankh's statue also indicates he was far more than an ordinary bureaucrat.

Basalt was precious stone, far more expensive than the limestone used for Seneb's statue or for Per-N-Ankh's tomb and an outside viewing room that allowed visitors to offer gifts to the statue of the dead dwarf.

Hieroglyphs on the statue and outside the tomb identify Per-N-Ankh as "an acquaintance of the king and known to the palace."

"Even to be able to be seen by the pharaoh was significant," Weeks said, "because if a person accidentally touched the pharaoh — even came into his shadow — he could be killed."

Thus far, the United States has either delivered or pledged more than \$70 million to the relief effort. The figure for the rest of the international community is about \$84 million, according to U.S. estimates.

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SERIOUS fun

IN this mood of conservatism that we live in, many topics and activities need to be probed into and reevaluated. And I propose to raise here some questions so as to help the authorities find the appropriate solutions.

Let us begin today with a crucial topic: parties and what goes in them. Of course I don't mean political parties as they have their own space to be tackled with.

Dancing is and will remain a major topic at the parties in question be it private or public. Reform begins by determining whether dances should be allowed in parties.

If we agree that dancing shouldn't be banned then we need to define the kind of dancing required: oriental, occidental or accidental.

Hence, if we want to maintain the spiralling occidental dancing slow and tango must be performed in a proper manner, and under the following regulations.

Rule 1- A couple dancing cheek-to-cheek had better have their "family register book" at hand as they are bound to prove they (he and she) were next to kin, in order to be allowed on the floor.

Rule 2- Distance between dancing partners should be fixed at 15 to 30 centimetres so as to prevent direct friction. This rule can be closely monitored by a "specialised" controller.

Rule 3- The tones and level of lighting are important as light ignites dormant feelings. The halls, therefore, should be dimly lit and red-free, otherwise they should be closed.

Rule 4- Disposition and the facial expressions of party-goers be subject to a certain formula wherein closed eyes should be forbidden. Dreamlike eyes are not appreciated and laughter is of bad taste. A serious expression that suits the seriousness of the situation in our area is requested.

Rule 5- Lambada and break-dancing are exempt from the above regulations.

I really hope these innovative ideas could help the authorities control "edgy" fun as fun is not a matter to be taken lightly.

Threat of famine in Ethiopia

By George Gedda

Mandela reassures business community

ANC attacks U.K. for lifting sanctions

LUSAKA, Zambia (Agencies) — The African National Congress (ANC) accused the British government Wednesday of breaking its word on economic sanctions against South Africa.

By lifting a ban on investment in South Africa, Britain violated sanctions agreements of the United Nations, the Commonwealth and the European Community (EC) that it once pledged to honour, said ANC information chief Pallo Jordan.

"The British government has gone back on its word," Jordan told reporters at the ANC's external headquarters in Lusaka.

Britain announced Tuesday it was ending the investment ban to encourage reform by South African President F.W. de Klerk.

Jordan said the British move was part of a pattern set by Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher favouring South Africa's white minority government.

"She has been quite prepared to be out of step with the rest of the world in her anxiety to accommodate the Pretoria regime," said the head of the guerrilla-backed organisation's Information Department.

He said Britain was party to international agreements that specified there would be no easing of trade and investment boycotts until irreversible change occurred in South Africa to end the apartheid system of racial separation.

On Feb. 2 de Klerk announced the legalisation of the ANC and

other opposition groups as part of a reform programme that also saw the release of veteran black nationalist Nelson Mandela after 27 years in prison in South Africa.

"We don't think by any stretch of the imagination the measures announced by de Klerk are irreversible," Jordan said.

He said the ANC was appealing to British business interests not to take advantage of the lifting of the investment ban.

The ANC has repeatedly said Thatcher's opposition to sanctions risked delaying change in South Africa by reducing pressure on the Pretoria government.

Britain has argued that economic sanctions hurt South Africa's black majority the most and de Klerk should be rewarded for reforms introduced so far.

Meanwhile, Harry Oppenheimer, one of South Africa's most influential businessmen, was quoted Wednesday as saying he did not think economic sanctions played the crucial role in moves to end apartheid.

"In a general sense, external pressures played a role. But I doubt sincerely if the economic aspect of this pressure was the determining factor," he said in an interview with the Paris daily *Le*

Figaro.

Oppenheimer, retired chairman of the Anglo American and De Beers Mining Dynasty, also discounted the impact of the withdrawal of several foreign companies from South Africa in protest against apartheid.

"The only thing that had an impact was the interruption of normal banking relations with the outside world," he said.

Foreign banks froze credit to Pretoria after former President P.W. Botha dashed hopes of rapid reform and political violence increased in South Africa.

Oppenheimer, a long-standing opponent of apartheid, said Mandela's release showed the Pretoria government "had abandoned the idea that South Africa belonged exclusively to whites."

In his assessment, the pressure that really touched the average white South African was the international sporting boycott of the country.

He said South Africa's overall paria status in the world has also been very important. "Here, like anywhere else, people like to stand still while the various parties get their act together," he said.

Mandela also said other nations must continue sanctions against South Africa to force the end of apartheid. "What we set out to achieve, we are far from achieving and there is nothing that has happened that has required us to review this decision," he said.

throwing crowds.

The government admits nearly 800 people have been detained before and during the campaign for multi-party democracy. A leading human rights group says the true number is doubt that.

There have been protests throughout the Kathmandu Valley, along the country's narrow Terai plain bordering India and in remote hill towns.

"We are very sad. The government has given special instructions to police to avoid confrontation. But policemen are being attacked," Bista said in an interview at Kathmandu's Singha Durbar (lion palace) government compound.

can businesses have been frightened by recent Mandela statements backing the ANC's plan to nationalise the economy if it takes control.

"This is an extremely important matter, and in any democratic situation a free expression of opinion is absolutely vital. I also expect compromise from both sides," Mandela was quoted as saying by *Business Day* news paper.

A lawmaker of the white opposition Democratic Party said Wednesday that the ANC and the governing National Party were moving too slowly and must accelerate political reform.

Tony Leon of the pro-reform party said the ANC's decision not to hold a congress on formulating a policy until December was a mistake, he told a meeting in Durban that the ANC and the government had to move more quickly.

"Whether or not the ANC or the government anticipates events achieving their own head of steam is almost irrelevant to the fact that the country, and its people, are hardly likely to stand still while the various parties get their act together," he said.

Mandela also said other nations must continue sanctions against South Africa to force the end of apartheid. "What we set out to achieve, we are far from achieving and there is nothing that has happened that has required us to review this decision," he said.

Horn said the principles of the 1975 Helsinki final act, in which 35 nations agreed on the borders of European countries and laid down minimum human rights standards, should be expanded and turned gradually into obligations.

"This may bring forth a new attitude and, in this framework, it cannot even be excluded that Hungary joins NATO," the Hungarian News Agency (MTI) quoted him as saying at a public debate Tuesday.

Western diplomats expressed surprise at Horn's comments, which seemed to mark a departure from the previous Hungarian view that both military alliances should be dissolved and that Hungary had a long-term desire for neutrality.

But they cautioned that they may have been made with one eye on March 25 elections.

Hungary's first national multi-party poll since 1947. "Remarks like this could take the wind out of the opposition's sails," said one.

At a debate entitled "Will European history start again?" Horn said Europe could develop a new collective system of defence and security and that this would transform both NATO and the Warsaw Pact.

"The road to this leads, among other things, through the establishment of closer ties between Hungary and the various NATO organisations, first of all the political ones," he said.

Cambodia launches counterattack as premier holds talks in Thailand

BANGKOK (AP) — Cambodian government forces reportedly launched a fierce counteroffensive against guerrilla positions Wednesday as Premier Hun Sen held peace talks in Thailand with guerrilla leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk.

Government forces captured another KPNLF base in the same district Tuesday morning, but the guerrillas retook it in the afternoon, the broadcast said.

Resistance officials and Thai military officers reported that government forces also had struck Monday night near Sway Chek, a gateway to Sisophon.

The front guerrillas seized the town in Battambang province on Dec. 5 as part of the stepped up guerrilla offensive launched after Vietnam said it had withdrawn the last of its troops from Cambodia.

About 250 government soldiers backed by four T-54 tanks attacked frontline positions about 10 kilometres from Sway Chek for four hours, said Ok Serei Sopheap, a senior official of the front.

He maintained that the guerrillas have advanced no more than 60 kilometres from the Thai border since the Vietnamese pullout was completed.

Tea Banh confirmed in the newspaper interview that the guerrillas have shelled villages around Battambang's provincial capital.

has lost no ground in the attack. Eleven government soldiers were killed and 24 captured while only six guerrillas were wounded, he claimed.

A Thai military officer said the fighting could be termed the start of a small counteroffensive.

A Thai newspaper, *The Nation*, Wednesday quoted Phnom Penh Defence Minister Gen. Tea Banh as saying the guerrillas have been receiving increased military aid since Vietnam purportedly withdrew all of its troops in September.

He contended that the arms were coming from China and the United States, and were transported into the country by the Thai military.

He also maintained that the guerrillas have advanced no more than 60 kilometres from the Thai border since the Vietnamese pullout was completed.

Tea Banh confirmed in the newspaper interview that the guerrillas have shelled villages around Battambang's provincial capital.

COLUMN

Surviving Beatles reunite at Grammy Awards

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The 32nd annual Grammy Awards offered a chance for a reunion of sorts for the three surviving Beatles at the Shrine Auditorium.

Two former members of the Fab Four, George Harrison and Ringo Starr, were in contention for Grammys Wednesday night and the third surviving member, Paul McCartney, was chosen in advance to receive an honour for his lifetime achievements.

Former Beatle John Lennon was killed in a December 1980 attack by a deranged fan. Harrison, as part of the all-star travelling Wilbury Volume One, Starr's teaming with Buck Owens on the single *Act Naturally* earned a bid for Best Country Vocal Collaboration. McCartney and jazz artist Miles Davis were chosen to receive lifetime achievement awards from the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences.

The academy said McCartney would be honoured on stage, receiving the award from actress Meryl Streep. It was unknown whether Harrison and Starr would be on hand.

Let them eat grass, says envoy

ALGIERS, Algeria (AP) — Cubans would rather eat grass than McDonald's hamburgers to preserve the purity of their Communist revolution, Cuban Ambassador Elises Estrada Lescaille said as saying in a December 1989 speech.

He pointed out that since 1987 Hungary had maintained relations with the North Atlantic Assembly, a non-executive body of parliamentarians from ANTO member countries.

Budapest is negotiating with Moscow for the full withdrawal of Soviet troops from Hungary.

Ernesto Somogyi, one of Horn's deputies, said Tuesday the two sides would meet on Feb. 28 and by mid-March sign an accord on a timetable of withdrawal.

The Soviet Union last year withdrew 10,000 of the 65,000 troops it had stationed in Hungary since quashing the 1956 uprising, when Prime Minister Imre Nagy formed a multi-party government and announced its withdrawal from the Warsaw Pact.

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